

NEWSPAPER MAN TALKS

SAYS ARDMORE WAS REVELATION
TO HIM.

Advices Strongly the Building of One
or More Cotton Mills—Thinks
Thinks Establishment Would
Induce Other Enterprises.

C. S. Welsh one of the correspondents of the Dallas News with headquarters at Fort Worth was in the city last night enroute to Florence, South Carolina, having been summoned by the serious illness of his mother. Mr. Welsh unfortunately missed his connection at Randolph and came to Ardmore to spend the night. He departed over the Choctaw yesterday afternoon to continue his journey. Mr. Welsh was a pleasant caller at the office of the Ardmoreite. This was his first trip to this section of the country, and he was greatly amazed to find such evidence of thrift and progress in the big territory town.

Said Mr. Welsh: "I was not only surprised, but your town was a revelation to me. I thought I would find the same conditions prevailing here that I found in every new city in a new country. Instead of this, however, I find a people hospitable and ever ready to give the glad hand to the visitor, your business houses and the appearance of the town in general, your thrift enterprise and energy. While it has the air of being a new town, yet what belongings are going up and what improvements are being made are of a permanent nature, and should nothing befall the town within the next decade you should have a city of 25,000 inhabitants."

"I understand that you have a live commercial club and that this organization here is doing much for the town."

"Ardmore, I understand, is considered one of the largest inland cotton markets in the world. Ardmore should within the course of the next year or two build one or two cotton mills. You have the market, you have the railroad facilities and everything that is favorable for fostering an enterprise of this nature."

Mr. Welsh thinks that with the establishment of such a mill the price of cotton will materially increase. He bases his opinion on actual conditions which exist in the south eastern states where there are a number of cotton mills in operation. He says that a mill is entirely feasible in Ardmore. At McColl, S. C., he said, much of the stock was subscribed by farmers who paid for their stock in cotton as the season progressed, and the mill is a good paying investment, having paid handsome dividends. Within the past ten years four mills have been built in the same town. The advantages of a cotton mill in this country are numerous and with the proper effort on the part of the Commercial club, I think that a cotton factory can be started and be made a paying investment. Such a factory will give employment to many, utilize home products, and supply the demand for manufactured articles.

Mr. Welsh is of the opinion that such an enterprise will give Ardmore an impetus as a cotton market, besides encouraging the farmers to diversify crops. He thinks that with the establishment of such a factory other enterprises will follow, such as additional factories of all kinds.

Touching upon the all important topic of statehood, Mr. Welsh said that if any country deserved statehood by reason of its resources and natural advantages it was the Indian Territory and he thinks that with self-reliance the country will go forward by leaps and bounds.

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Resolutions of Respect.

To the Officers and Comrades, of John H. Morgan Camp U. C. V. Comrades: The undersigned appointed at a regular meeting of the camp to draft resolutions upon the death of Comrade Judge R. H. West, respectfully report as follows:

The leaves of the Forest dropping one by one make it in Autumn stripped of its foliage, leaving bare that which once bore beautiful evidence of life and growth, and falling to the earth they soon decay when mingling with the clay, thus reminding us that there is an end to all things animate and inanimate.

To the lover of nature when watching the forest as it budded blossomed and ripened with lovely foliage it is easy to associate himself with the seasons of Spring and youth causing him to feel that the verdure of life is with him and in reverence admit his obligation to the creator of all. With such environments he forgets that with the coming of Autumn when the foliage shows the mingled hues of olive and brown here comes decay as it falls from the twig and stem; and he also forgets that there is for him an Autumn when in the "Sear and Yellow Leaf" no too shall fall to mingle with the clay of which he was made—"earth to earth and dust to dust", yet unlike the leaf, that embureth the ground to rise no more, he has a spirit which shall return to the God who gave it.

Comrades when the bugle blast in the Sixties rang out all over the Union summoning to arms for a fratricidal conflict, the soldiery upon both sides of that unhappy strife, the youth and manhood of the country responded as patriots should, and from our own Southland the flower of her best, bravest and truest rose as of one faith in submissive obedience to what they believed was right. Vigorous manhood and loyal patriotism, made an army of such buoyancy of spirit, which in its martial tread resounded like the echoes of the Everlasting hills, to know no decay; but like the leaves of the forest they one by one are dropping.

One by one have fallen the gray until that which once gave every evidence of strength and beauty of chivalry, has as fallen into the "scur and yellow leaf" that of the remnant left, it can be truly said they are patiently awaiting the summons as did our comrade West whose body fell from the stem of mortal life, as the sun was going down behind the Western hills.

Our comrade Robt. H. West was born in the State of Mississippi on March 29th, 1848. He enlisted in Company C, 6th Texas Cavalry and served to the end of the war. Ere he reached his manhood he knew the trials of war and the hardships incident to a soldier's duty. He had heard the deadly song of the bullet and listened to the requiems over comrades touched by their deadly slugs. At the close he settled in Dallas, Texas, while yet under age and attended the school taught by the estimable wife of the commander of this camp.

The law became his chosen profession, and it was not long before the good people of Dallas county, recognized his merit as a man and as a lawyer and twice elected him their county judge. About twelve or thirteen years ago when Ardmore was in her infancy, he came to her gates and was welcomed and within them he remained until taken away by that decree to which all will bow. There was no fact more familiar to the passer by in this city and from none did there come a heartier handshake and smile of features than from Robt. H. West. Such men should be missed and will be missed.

This camp will miss him for he was a constant attendant and a cordial comrade, who was ever loyal to the memories of those times that tried the souls of men. A man of strong convictions he sought not the approval of others before reaching a conclusion and when reached he was as unbending as was his belief in the right.

Therefore he is resolved. First, That in the death of our comrade Robt. H. West this camp is deprived of a faithful comrade, one whose loyalty to the veterans of the South was never shaken and whose duty to good citizenship was never forgotten and as one who never wavered in fidelity to his convictions or in what was due his fellow-man—

Second, That a copy of this report be spread upon the Journal of the Camp and a duly authenticated copy thereof be furnished the family of our dead comrade, and the press of the Southern district be requested to publish the same.

In comradeship Submitted,
JOHN L. GALT,
D. M. RUMPH,
STILLWELL H. RUSSELL.

Attest:—G. H. Bruce, Adj. April 21, 1905.

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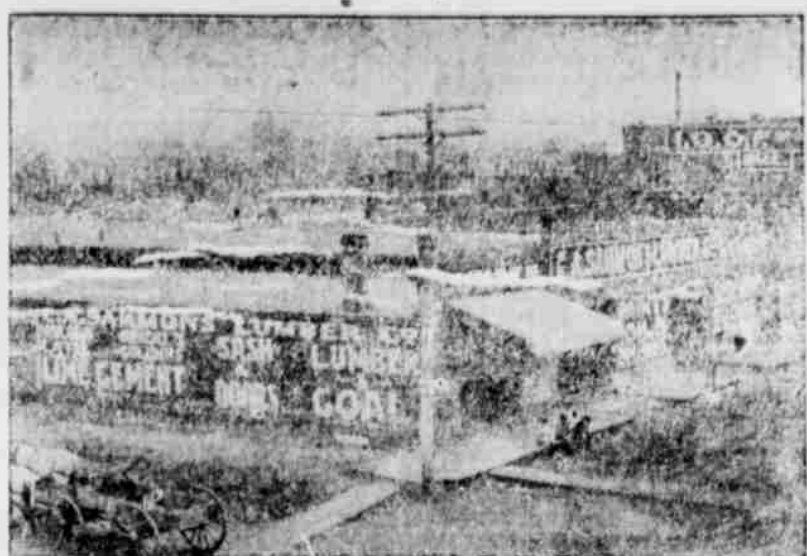
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